

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service
Santa Fe National Forest



For Immediate Release

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April 26, 2006

WEST SIDE OF SANTA FE NATIONAL FOREST WILL JOIN EAST SIDE IN STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS

(SANTA FE, NM)—The west side of the Santa Fe National Forest will also enter Stage I fire restrictions beginning Friday, April 28, at 8 a.m. “In spite of the chance of showers on Thursday through the weekend, the potential for aggressive fire behavior is increasing daily,” said Pat Velasco, Forest Fire Behavior Analyst.

Fire restrictions will apply to the Valles Caldera National Preserve and all National Forest lands around Cuba, Coyote, Jemez, Los Alamos, Abiquiu, Española, Santa Fe, Pecos, Las Vegas, and Mora. Fire restrictions will not apply to Wilderness areas on the Forest (Pecos Wilderness, San Pedro Parks, Dome Wilderness, and Chama River Canyon Wilderness) or the Caja Del Rio area of the Española Ranger District. The Caja Del Rio area will remain out of restrictions because the area’s vegetation is relatively sparse and less likely to burn as easy.

Stage 1 Fire Restrictions Entail:

- **Open Campfire Restrictions:**

Campfires, charcoal grills and stove fires **are prohibited** on National Forest lands, except in developed camp and picnic grounds where grills are provided for the public by the Forest Service.

Pressurized liquid or gas stoves, lanterns and heaters are allowed.

- **Smoking Restrictions:**

Smoking is allowed within an enclosed vehicle or building; a developed recreation site; or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter and free of all flammable material.

- **Fireworks:**

As always, fireworks are prohibited on all National Forest lands.

Violation of these regulations are punishable as a Class B misdemeanor, by a fine of not more than \$5000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months or both.

